



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Carlos PEDRIDO, et al.

Attorney Docket Q62474

Appln. No.: 09/745,414

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Confirmation No.: 9890

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: December 26, 2000

For: A PREFORM INLET ARRANGEMENT FOR AN OPTICAL FIBER DRAWING FURNACE, A FURNACE PROVIDED WITH THAT KIND OF INLET ARRANGEMENT, AND A PREFORM EQUIPPED TO CO-OPERATE WITH THAT INLET ARRANGEMENT

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

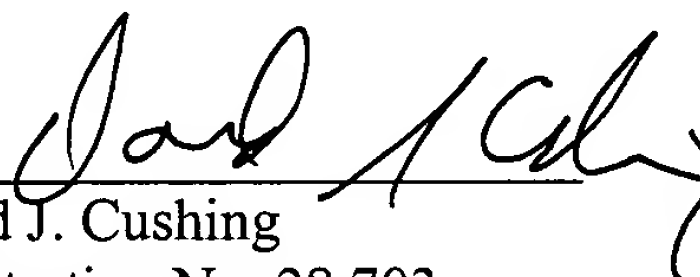
In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicants enclose herewith a copy of a corresponding

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
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Communication from a Foreign Patent Office citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Communication from a Foreign Patent Office indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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